

CLAIMS

1. A curve generating apparatus adapted for generating, from curve to be generated or processed of first frame, curve at second frame, the apparatus comprising:

correspondence point detecting means for determining, by using the curve to be generated of the first frame, correspondence point at the second frame corresponding to reference correspondence point set on the curve to be generated of the first frame; and

curve generating means for generating curve of the second frame passing through the correspondence point detected by the correspondence point detecting means.

2. The curve generating apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the correspondence point detecting means carries out picture image pursuit of reference correspondence point set on the curve to be generated of the first frame to determine correspondence point at the second frame.

3. The curve generating apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the curve generating means is adapted so that when the first frame is caused to be frame at the time of start and frame at the time of end is caused to be third frame, it determines interpolated curve by linear interpolation from curve to be

generated of the first frame and curve of the third frame to deform this interpolated curve into curve passing through the correspondence point detected by the correspondence point detecting means.

4. The curve generating apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the curve generating means generates, as curve, shape along edge
of picture image passing through correspondence point detected by the
correspondence point detecting means.

5. The curve generating apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the curve generating means generates contour curve of object on
picture image.

6. A curve generating method for generating, from curve to be generated or
processed of first

frame, curve at second frame,

the method comprising:

a correspondence point detection step of determining, by using curve to be
generated of the first frame, correspondence point at the second frame corresponding
to reference correspondence point set on the curve to be generated of the first frame;
and

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a curve generating step of generating curve of the second frame passing through the correspondence point detected by the correspondence point detection step.

7. The curve generating method as set forth in claim 6,
wherein, at the correspondence point detection step, a procedure is taken to carry out picture image pursuit of reference correspondence point set on the curve to be generated of the first frame to determine correspondence point at the second frame.

8. The curve generating method as set forth in claim 6,
wherein, at the curve generating step, a procedure is taken such that when the first frame is assumed to be frame at the time of start and frame at the time of end is assumed to be third frame, interpolated curve is determined by linear interpolation from the curve to be generated of the first frame and curve of the third frame to deform this interpolated curve into curve passing through the correspondence point detected at the correspondence detection step.

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9. The curve generating method as set forth in claim 6,
wherein, at the curve generating step, a procedure is taken to generate, as curve, shape along edge of picture image passing through correspondence point detected at the correspondence point detection step.

SUB 13 10. The curve generating method as set forth in claim 6,
wherein, at the curve generating step, a procedure is taken to generate contour
curve of object on picture image.

11. A program recording medium adapted so that there is recorded program
relating

to curve generating processing for generating curve at second frame from curve to be
generated in processed of first frame,

the program comprising:

SUB 14 a correspondence point detection step of determining, by using curve to be
generated of the first frame, correspondence point at the second frame corresponding
to reference correspondence point set on the curve to be generated of the first frame;
and

a curve generation step of generating curve of the second frame passing through
the correspondence point detected by the correspondence detection step.